Applying for Aid: How do I get started?

Financial Aid & Student Employment

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Hello, my name is Jamee. I am a financial aid advisor at UW Green Bay. This session is for students and families who have not already applied for financial aid. Advisors in the financial aid office are available for individual questions. Feel free to email or call our office ((920) 465 2075 or financialaid@uwgb.edu) with your questions.

What is Financial Aid?

- Resources to help pay for educational expenses
- Aid can come from:
 - Federal Government
 - State Government
 - Schools
 - Private sources



What is Financial Aid? Financial aid is various resources to help a student pay for educational related expenses. Aid can come from several resources and is intended to provide assistance in paying costs associated with attending college. It is not intended to cover all expenses.

How do I apply for Financial Aid?

- Complete the 2021-22 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at fafsa.gov
- Apply annually, application is available October 1st each year
- If eligible, use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool to import 2019 tax data into the FAFSA.
- The student and one parent will need to set up an FSA ID username and password to sign the FAFSA. The FSA ID is also used for other student aid websites. See <u>studentaid.gov</u> then click Apply for Aid, Filling out the FAFSA form and Create an FSA ID.



How does a student apply for financial aid?

Students will complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid or FAFSA online with the Department of Education. As a reminder – the application is FREE to complete so never pay to file the FAFSA.

It is not too late to apply for 2021-22. Complete the 2021-22 FAFSA online at fafsa.gov using 2019 federal tax information. The application is an annual application that is available October $\mathbf{1}^{\text{st}}$.

An FSA ID is needed for the student and at least one parent. Keep this information confidential as it serves as your log in to several Federal Student Aid websites and as your signature on many documents. To set up the FSA ID go to studentaid.gov then Click Apply for Aid, click Filling out the FAFSA form and then click Create an FSA ID.

Which parent's information is required?

- Which parent did the student live with the most in the 12 months prior to filing the FAFSA?
- If both equally, then which parent provided the most support in the 12 months prior to filing the FAFSA?
- If the responsible parent is remarried then step parent information is also reported.

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 If biological or adoptive parents are unmarried but are living in the same home, then they would report a marital status of unmarried but living together and report both parent's information.

If your family situation involves parents who may be divorced and/or remarried, then which parent's information is required on the FAFSA. Keep in mind it is not necessarily the parent who claims you for tax purposes. Students would answer – which parent did you live with the most in the 12 months prior to filing the FAFSA? Keep in mind there are 365 days in most years, so typically this would determine which parent's information is required. In situations where the student lived with each parent exactly 50/50, then which parent provided the most support in the 12 months prior to filing the FAFSA? Support can include housing, food, transportation, auto insurance, medical insurance and expenses, personal and miscellaneous. If expenses are split, then typically it's the parent with the higher income. If that parent is remarried then the parent and step parent information is required. Biological or adoptive parents who are unmarried but are living in the same home need to indicate a marital status of unmarried but living together and then report both parent's information on the FAFSA.

What information is reported on the FAFSA?

- Student and Parent Income Information (2021-22 FAFSA based on 2019 Tax information)
- Student and Parent Asset Information (not home or retirement funds)
- Household Information
- UW-Green Bay School Code: 003899





The FAFSA requires income information of the student and the parent. The 2021-22 FAFSA requires 2019 federal tax information. It also requires student and parent asset information (excluding the value of primary residence or retirement accounts); household size information, and number in college. Be sure to enter UWGB's School code 003899.

What Happens After I complete the FAFSA?

- UW Green Bay's Financial Aid Office will receive the FAFSA within about 2 weeks of when you sign and submit it online.
- The Financial Aid Office will follow up with the student via UWGB email and mail if anything additional is needed. If you receive correspondence requesting documentation for verification, be sure to follow up with our office at your earliest convenience.
- The Financial Aid Office will determine eligibility and notify the student via mail and UWGB email once an aid offer is available to accept or decline in SIS

pnitor your UWGB Email account regularly.

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After completing the FAFSA, the Department of Education will produce an output document that confirms all the data reported on the FAFSA called the Student Aid Report (SAR). You can access that document by logging back in to the FAFSA website.

UW Green Bay will receive your application within about 2 weeks of when you signed and submitted it online. Our office will notify the student via email and mail if there is additional information needed to process your application. Some applications are selected for verification – this process does not mean you did something wrong, it means that the Department of Education is requiring that the school verify accuracy of data elements reported on the FAFSA. If you receive correspondence from our office requesting additional information, return that information to us timely. Of course, contact our office with any questions regarding the information requested. The Financial aid office will notify the student via mail and UWGB email once a financial aid offer is available to accept or decline in SIS. Students be sure to monitor your UWGB Email account on a regular basis.

What types of aid are based on the FAFSA?

- The FAFSA is the one application that determines aid eligibility for:
 - Federal Grant funding
 - State Grant funding (Wisconsin resident)
 - Federal Work Study
 - Federal Student Loans





The FAFSA determines eligibility for federal and state grants. Not all students are eligible for grant funding as eligibility is limited to the highest need students. Federal Work study eligibility is determined by the FAFSA as well as eligibility for Federal Direct Student Loans. Some scholarship foundations also may request a copy of your Student Aid Report (SAR) from the FAFSA.

Questions?

Review the follow up sessions

- After Awarding: I received my financial aid offer, what next?
 Outlines estimated costs, types of aid and definitions, how to accept or decline aid
- After Awarding: Student Loans and Additional Resources
 Outlines borrowing student loans and additional funding resources

Contact the Financial Aid Office to speak with an advisor regarding your individual questions.



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This session covered how to apply for financial aid. Once you receive your financial aid offer, be sure to review the session titled After Awarding: I received my financial aid offer, what next?. That session can address questions regarding estimated costs, types of aid and definitions, how to accept or decline aid. Also review the After Awarding: Student Loans and Additional Resources for information regarding borrowing loans and additional funding options.

Advisors are available to talk through individual questions, so feel free to contact our office.